NHWPCA August 12, 2011 BOD Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Gerry Curran, Dave Lovely, Kevin McLean

Guests: Ray Vermette, Ray Gordon

The Meeting was held at Uno's Restaurant in Concord and started at 11:30 a.m.

Comments on the June 2, 2011 Minutes: None.

The minutes from the last meeting were accepted by the BOD.

Operator Exchange/Fall Meeting

No update, things seem to be set for Allenstown on September 23, 2011. Operator Exchange: Based on emails between John A. and the RI representative B. Bishop, the NH operator is in place with Mike Baker from Portsmouth representing. He will be in RI September 7th, 8th, 9th. The RI operator has yet to be determined and will be staying at a hotel in Concord. Tentative plans for plant tours for the RI operator while in NH are Dover, Nashua, Manchester, Concord, and Keene.

Winter Meeting

No report – Hooksett/Puritan-Backroom on December 8, 2011.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Committee reports were foregone due to limited attendance

Activities: Nancy L.

No report.

Communications: Kristin N.

No report.
Education: Kevin M.

No report.

Legislative: John A.

No report. FROM JUNE 2, 2011 MINUTES: Gerry got a call from Congressman Bass' office requesting a meeting to discuss Concord's permit. Maybe the new committee could handle this? Sean volunteered to attend meeting on behalf of the new committee. SEE ATTACHED SUGGESTED LETTER TO CONGRESSMAN BASS'S OFFICE FOR GERRY TO SIGN ON BEHALF OF BOARD.

Membership: Dave L.

No report.

Newsletter: Nancy L.

No report.

Safety: Gerry C.

No report.

Scholarship: John A.

No report.

Ops Challenge: Sean G.

No report.

NEW/OTHER BUSINESS:

- NHWPCA Permit Committee. FROM JUNE 2, 2011 MINUTES: A suggestion has been made to form a committee to watch permits and help Board weigh in on draft permits on behalf of the Association, if asked by the community. Sean explained that the committee would not write/author a statement but would review a letter authored by a community or their consultant. Committee would review letter and make recommendation to the Board as to whether to support or not. Committee would also provide community with contacts for other groups to gain support for plight. The third major committee responsibility would be to assist communities in navigating the discharge permit renewal process. Sean will formalize committee goals and mission statement for the Board to vote on to form
new committee. SEE ATTACHED NEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT FOR BOARD'S CONSIDERATION.

- **Operator Training 2011/Wastewater Management Candidate School for 2012.** Ray Gordon updated the board on currently expended and upcoming training expenses for Spring & Fall operator training. Also discussed were interest in, and format changes to, the Wastewater Management Candidate School for 2012. Discussions will continue based on current candidate feedback, outside funding or lack thereof, and the potentiality of interested candidates.

Next meeting to be held on September 9, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at the Concord Hall Street WWTF.
July 7, 2011

The Honorable Charles F. Bass

114 Main Street, Suite 200

Concord, NH 03301

Re: Request for support letter

Dear Congressman Bass:

On behalf of the New Hampshire Water Pollution Control Association (NHWPCA), we would like to thank you for having your staff attend a meeting on June 30, 2011 with members of the NHWPCA. At that meeting, we discussed the recently issued National Pollution Elimination System (NPDES) permit number NH0100901 – Concord, NH, Hall Street Wastewater Facility. This permit, along with other permits issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), have been issued with requirements for meeting very low nutrient limits without sufficient science based analysis of the water body. Currently, the Merrimack River is not listed on the 303d list for impairment from nutrients.

It is important to understand that one size does not fit all, and we must have limits based on “science” that will achieve desired water quality goals. In order to meet the proposed limits, significant capital and long term operations/maintenance costs will be required by the permit holders and will put a strain on New Hampshire residents and businesses that are rate payers.

The NHWPCA requests that you send a letter of support to EPA to require them to adhere to provisions of the Clean Water Act and utilize a science based approach to developing NPDES permit conditions.

Thank you for your interest in supporting this request.
VTY

Gerry Curran

President NHWPCA
Committee Name: DISCHARGE PERMIT LIMIT MONITORING COMMITTEE

Statement of Need: Nutrient limits are now showing up in discharge permits that have the potential to require costly upgrades that will have a major impact on the New Hampshire municipalities. As a result of the efforts of the Great Bay coalition, it has been shown that the permit limits being issued are not based on “science” and clearly demonstrates that the limits being proposed may not necessarily achieve the desired water quality goals. It is proposed that the committee be established to make the membership aware of the developments in this area so that they can deal with their permit limits on a more informed and knowledgeable basis.

Committee Purpose/Goal: To serve the members of the NHWPCA by monitoring ongoing permit issues in NH and keeping the membership informed on the process involved in setting permit limits.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES:

1. Publish draft permits as they become public for the membership to review for the purpose of making them aware of “what’s coming next”, specifically in the area of nutrient limits.
2. Publish formal steps of the permit renewal process so members will know what needs to be done, how and when.
3. Inform the membership on progress communities make in negotiating their permit limits, i.e., Exeter, Jaffrey, and etc.
4. Review communities’ consultant’s comments and make recommendations to the NHWPCA Board of Directors.
5. Help the communities gather support from NEWEA, NEIWPIC, and other associations.
6. Monitor and publish “new” permit and water quality issues as they affect NH communities.
7. Publish information on seminars and workshops related to the new permit issues.
8. Provide information and guidance to the membership on how they can obtain outside assistance in negotiating their permit.

Potential Membership:

1. Chairman approved by the Board of directors.
2. Any member of the NHWPCA that would like to be involved.